

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 179956
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: IO/UNA: JFTEFFT

APPROVED BY: IO/UNA: JFTEFFT

S/S-O: DSCOTT

-----060413 171830Z /45

O 171812Z JUL 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 179956

EXDIS, NOFORN, BELGRADE FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT PARIS 22345 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO MOGADISCIO,
JIDDA, ADDIS ABABA, DJIBOUTI, CAIRO, KHARTOUM, NAIROBI, BAGHDAD
13 JUL 78

QUOTE S E C R E T PARIS 22345

EXDIS

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MASS, EAID, PEPR, FR, SO

SUBJ: SIAD BARRE VISIT TO FRANCE

1. ON JULY 13 WEDISCUSSED SIAD BARRE'S JULY 11-12
VISIT TO PARIS WITH ELYSEE AFRICAN ADVISOR, RENE
JOURNIAC. JOURNIAC SAID THAT THERE WERE FEW SURPRISES
IN WHAT SIAD HAD TO SAY. HE HAD EXPOUNDED TO PRESI-
DENT GISCARD D'ESTAING THE FAMILIAR ARGUMENT THAT
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 179956

SOMALIA IS THE VICTIM OF A CONCERTED RUSSIAN PLOT TO
EXERT CONTROL OVER THE RED SEA AREA AND EVENTUALLY
TO ENCIRCLE SAUDI ARABIA AS DEMONSTRATED BY THE EVENTS
IN THE PDRY AND AFGHANISTAN. THIS WAS ACCOMPANIED BY
EXHORTATIONS ON THE NEED OF WESTERN SUPPORT FOR SOMALIA
TO COUNTER SOVIET AIMS. A NEW TWIST TO SIAD'S PRE-
SENTATION WAS THE CONTENTION THAT THE SOVIETS ARE NEAR

AGREEMENT WITH THE ERITREAN PEOPLES LIBERATION FORCES TO SUPPORT THE CREATION OF AN INDEPENDENT MARXIST STATE IN ERITREA WHICH WOULD BE A SOVIET CLIENT IN THE PATTERN OF ANGOLA. JOURNIAC SAID THAT HE HAD FOUND THIS POINT OF THE PRESENTATION INTERESTING BUT IMPLAUSIBLE. AMONG OTHER REASONS FOR SKEPTICISM, THE SOVIETS HAVING BADLY MISCALCULATED THE STRENGTH OF NATIONALIST FEELINGS IN EARLIER DEALINGS WITH SOMALIA ARE HARDLY LIKELY TO MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE IN DEALING WITH ETHIOPIA. AT THE SAME TIME, THERE WAS SOME TRUTH IN WHAT SIAD HAD TO SAY ABOUT APPARENTLY UNCHECKED GROWTH OF SOVIET INFLUENCE IN THE AREA.

2. SIAD BARRE TOLD THE FRENCH THAT HE WOULD BE TRAVELING TO IRAQ AFTER FRANCE TO CONSULT WITH IRAQI LEADERS WHO HE MAINTAINED, HAVE BEEN MARKED AS THE NEXT SOVIET VICTIMS IN THE PLOT TO ENCIRCLE SAUDI ARABIA.

3. ON THE SUBJECT OF WHAT SIAD BARRE HAD ASKED FROM FRANCE, JOURNIAC SAID THAT HE HAD COME EQUIPPED WITH AN EXTENSIVE LIST OF DEMANDS FOR ECONOMIC AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE. ON THE ECONOMIC SIDE FRANCE WILL DO SOMETHING AFTER SIAD'S REQUESTS HAVE BEEN STUDIED IN MORE DETAIL. SIAD'S REQUESTS ON THE MILITARY SIDE HAD BEEN TYPICALLY EXTENSIVE--IN EFFECT ENOUGH TO
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 179956

RE-EQUIP EIGHT DIVISIONS. THE FRENCH HAD TAKEN THE LIST AND SAID THEY WOULD EXAMINE IT. WHEN THEY ASKED WHO MIGHT PAY FOR ALL THIS EQUIPMENT EVEN IF IT WERE AVAILABLE, SIAD HAD REPLIED THAT THERE WAS NO PROBLEM; THE SAUDIS HAVE AGREED TO PICK UP THE TAB FOR WHATEVER SOMALIA CAN OBTAIN. JOURNIAC SAID THAT IT WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION THAT FRANCE WOULD PROVIDE ANYTHING BUT DEFENSIVE ARMS UNTIL THE SITUATION IN THE AREA RETURNS TO A SEMBLANCE OF PEACE AND NORMALITY. COMMENT: THE IMPLICATION WAS THAT FRANCE WOULD RESPOND CAUTIOUSLY BUT POSITIVELY WITH AN OFFER OF SOME DEFENSIVE WEAPONS EVEN BEFORE PEACE RETURNS TO THE OGADEN. END COMMENT.

4. IN REPLY TO A QUESTION JOURNIAC SAID THAT SIAD BARRE HAD NOT EVEN HINTED AT THE POSSIBILITY OF A TURNING TO THE SOVIETS IF HE DID NOT RECEIVE SATISFACTION IN THE WEST. "THERE WAS NOT EVEN A WHIFF OF BLACKMAIL."
HARTMAN

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE179956
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/UNA: JFTEFFT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780293-0110
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780751/aaaabreq.tel
Line Count: 116
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: eaf7f071-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1984067
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SIAD BARRE VISIT TO FRANCE
TAGS: MASS, EAID, PEPR, FR, SO, (BARR, SAID)
To: BELGRADE USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/eaf7f071-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014